

(c) Context specific interventions for children who are "hard to reach" such as bridge courses, learning centres with flexible timings, seasonal hostels, home based education, mobile schools, have been taken up under SSA. The Government of India has undertaken 17 orientation and capacity building workshops with States/UTs with illustrative case studies of good practices, to encourage State/districts to do such context specific interventions.

Ban on interview for nursery admission

†2915. MISS ANUSUIYA UIKEY: Will the Minister of WOMAN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether a ban has been imposed by the court on interviewing parents/children seeking admission to private nursery schools;
- (b) the provision for its implementation and the penalties provided for its violation;
- (c) whether such a ban is also not required for nursery schools in other parts of the country; and
- (d) if so, the initiatives being taken by Government in this direction, and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) and (b) Though Media has reported regarding ban on interviewing parents/children seeking admission to private nursery schools, no Court Order regarding this has been received.

(c) and (d) 'Education' being a subject under the concurrent list of the Constitution, such schools come under the jurisdiction of the State Government.

Status of creamy layer students in reservation

2916. SHRI KARNENDU BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether in view of the fact that the oversight Committee headed by

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Mr. Veerappa Moily, has refrained from making any recommendation about the creamy layer issue, Government have taken any decision on the creamy layer students and those OBC students who come up by merit independent of reservation quota; and

(b) if so, the decision taken by Government in the matter, and how it would impact the quota of seats reserved for the OBC?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) and (b) The 27% reservation provided in accordance with the provisions of the Central Educational Institution (Reservation in Admission) Act, 2006' is for all sections of the OBCs. The matter is *sub-judice*.

Institutes to be accorded autonomous status

2917. SHRI S.M. LALJAN BASHA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

- (a) whether U.G.C. has started taking steps to find institutes that can be accorded autonomous status;
- (b) whether it is a fact that the U.G.C. has asked colleges to come forward to seek autonomous status;
- (c) whether U.G.C. has simplified and debureaucratized procedures and applications in this regard;
- (d) the manner in which U.G.C. has improved its functioning to create more autonomous institutes; and
- (e) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (e) The University Grants Commission (UGC) has been inviting fresh proposals each year for grant of autonomous status to eligible colleges under its Scheme of Autonomous Colleges. Any university may also send circulars asking its affiliated colleges to apply. The number of Autonomous Colleges has grown from 2004 as on 31.3.2005 to 265 at present.